

Message Text

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ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 VO-05 EA-10 SS-15 SP-02
DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 /063 W
-----001603 231203Z /10

R 230922Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5755
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: SREF
SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES STILL AT PORT OF JAKARTA

REF: JAKARTA 16606 AND 16555

1. AUSTRALIAN IMMIGRATION OFFICER HAS APPROVED 39 VIETNAMESE
REFUGEES ABOARD "HONG GIANG" AT JAKARTA FOR RESETTLEMENT
IN AUSTRALIA. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY PRESENTLY DOCUMENTING
AND TICKETING THEM FOR AIR TRAVEL SOONEST.

2. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED 10 OF THE TOTAL BOATLOAD OF 75
HAVE BEEN ALLOWED ASHORE AND ARE NOW IN REFUGEE CAMP.
IMMEDIATE FATE OF 26 STILL NOT DETERMINED. THEY STILL
ABOARD BOAT (ALONG WITH THE 39 DESTINED FOR AUSTRALIA).
REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE 26 CAME TO
EMBASSY 23 DECEMBER FOR ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE. THEY ARE
BEING TOLD BY INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES THAT THEY SHOULD SAIL
TO AUSTRALIA AND APPLY TO GO TO AMERICA (WHERE THEY ALL
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WANT TO GO) FROM THERE.

3. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY OFFICIAL HAS TOLD US THAT
CANBERRA HAS THIS WEEK RECONFIRMED POLICY THAT AUSTRALIA
WILL NOT ACCEPT "TRANSIT" REFUGEES, BUT ONLY THOSE WHO
INTEND TO SETTLE THERE PERMANENTLY. 8 OF THE 26 TRIED
TO CONVINCE AUSTRALIAN IMMIGRATION OFFICER THAT THEY

HAD CHANGED MIND AND WANTED TO SETTLE IN AUSTRALIA. THEY FAILED TO CONVINCE HIM HOWEVER BECAUSE OF THEIR PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED DESIRE AND FAMILY CONNECTIONS IN THE U.S. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED RECONSIDERATION OF THESE 8, WHO LATER VISITED EMBASSY AND EXPRESSED INTENTION OF SETTLING IN AUSTRALIA AND ASKED FOR RECONSIDERATION.

4. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN YET ANOTHER STATEMENT (AND CLARIFICATION) OF REFUGEE POLICY FORM INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES. WE EXPECT TO HEAR, HOWEVER, THAT INDONESIA CONTINUES TO OFFER FIRST ASYLUM TO THOSE REQUESTING IT, AND THAT THIS PARTICULAR BOAT LOAD (I.E., THE 26 WHO WILL BE LEFT ABOARD) CHOOSES TO GO TO AUSTRALIA. INDEED, CAPTAIN OF BOAT TOLD AUSTRALIAN THAT VIETNAMESE HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED BY THE INDONESIANS TO TAKE LINE THAT THEY ALL WANT TO GO TO AUSTRALIA.

5. AT THIS TIME ABOUT ALL WE CAN SAY IS THAT INDONESIANS ARE "ACTIVELY ENCOURAGING" THESE REFUGEES TO CONTINUE JOURNEY ONTO AUSTRALIA, AND THAT WHILE THEY HAVE NOT OFFICIALLY DENIED FIRST ASYLUM, IT IS APPARENTLY NOT AS EASY TO OBTAIN AS THE INDONESIANS MAKE OUT. THE BOAT, WITH 65 REFUGEES ABOARD, HAS BEEN IN HARBOR FOR EXACTLY ONE MONTH.

MASTERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: REFUGEES, PORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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